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Agenda item 118

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part I)

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 September 1998, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. For its consideration of the item, the Fifth Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Contributions.[1]

3. At the 3rd meeting, on 5 October 1998 following a statement by the representative of the Comoros,[2] the Fifth Committee decided to give priority consideration to the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions contained in chapter III, section C, of the report, prior to its consideration of the item as scheduled in its programme of work.

4. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 4th meeting, on 6 October 1998. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/53/SR.4). An addendum to the present report will reflect the further consideration of the item by the Committee during the fifty-third session.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/53/11).
[2] A/C.5/53/SR.3.

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II. Consideration of a draft decision

5. At the 4th meeting, on 6 October, following informal consultations, the representative of Ireland introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, an oral draft decision entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", which was subsequently issued as document A/C.5/53/L.4.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Scale of assessments for apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter III, section C, of the report of the Committee on Contributions,[3] decides:

(a) To endorse the conclusions of the Committee contained in paragraphs 32 and 36 of its report, that the failure of the Comoros and of Tajikistan to pay the minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations was attributable to conditions beyond their control;

(b) That, as a result, the Comoros and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote through the fifty-third session of the General Assembly and that any extension that may be requested shall be subject to review by the Committee on Contributions.

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/53/11).